

Senate Bill No. 1481

CHAPTER 874

An act to amend Sections 1206.5, 1211, 1265, and 4052.4 of, and to add Section 1206.6 to, the Business and Professions Code, relating to clinical laboratories.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2012. Filed with
Secretary of State September 30, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1481, Negrete McLeod. Clinical laboratories: community pharmacies.

Existing law, the Pharmacy Law, provides for the licensure and regulation of pharmacists by the California State Board of Pharmacy and authorizes a pharmacist to perform skin puncture in the course of performing clinical laboratory tests classified as waived pursuant to the federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA). Existing law provides for the licensure, registration, and regulation of clinical laboratories and various clinical laboratory personnel by the State Department of Public Health, subject to certain exceptions. Existing law prohibits a person from performing a clinical laboratory test classified as waived unless the test is performed under the overall operation and administration of the laboratory director who meets specified requirements and the test is performed by certain persons, as specified.

This bill would eliminate that laboratory director requirement with respect to certain tests classified as waived under CLIA that are approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for sale to the public without a prescription in the form of an over-the-counter test kit and are performed by a pharmacist at a community pharmacy upon customer request, provided that the pharmacy obtains a CLIA certificate of waiver and a registration from the State Department of Public Health and complies with all other requirements governing clinical laboratories, as specified. The bill would make other related conforming changes.

This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 1206.5 of the Business and Professions Code made by AB 761 that would become operative only if both this bill and AB 761 are enacted and this bill is chaptered after AB 761.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1206.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

1206.5. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 1206 and except as otherwise provided in Sections 1206.6 and 1241, no person shall perform a clinical laboratory test or examination classified as waived under CLIA unless the clinical laboratory test or examination is performed under the overall operation and administration of the laboratory director, as described in Section 1209, including, but not limited to, documentation by the laboratory director of the adequacy of the qualifications and competency of the personnel, and the test is performed by any of the following persons:

- (1) A licensed physician and surgeon holding a M.D. or D.O. degree.
- (2) A licensed podiatrist, a licensed dentist, or a licensed naturopathic doctor, if the results of the tests can be lawfully utilized within his or her practice.
- (3) A person licensed under this chapter to engage in clinical laboratory practice or to direct a clinical laboratory.
- (4) A person authorized to perform tests pursuant to a certificate issued under Article 5 (commencing with Section 101150) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (5) A licensed physician assistant if authorized by a supervising physician and surgeon in accordance with Section 3502 or 3535.
- (6) A person licensed under Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 2700).
- (7) A person licensed under Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 2840).
- (8) A perfusionist if authorized by and performed in compliance with Section 2590.
- (9) A respiratory care practitioner if authorized by and performed in compliance with Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 3700).
- (10) A medical assistant, as defined in Section 2069, if the waived test is performed pursuant to a specific authorization meeting the requirements of Section 2069.
- (11) A pharmacist, as defined in Section 4036, if ordering drug therapy-related laboratory tests in compliance with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.1 or paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.2, or if performing skin puncture in the course of performing routine patient assessment procedures in compliance with Section 4052.1.
- (12) A naturopathic assistant, as defined in Sections 3613 and 3640.2, if the waived test is performed pursuant to a specific authorization meeting the requirements of Sections 3613 and 3640.2.
- (13) Other health care personnel providing direct patient care.
- (14) Any other person performing nondiagnostic testing pursuant to Section 1244.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 1206, no person shall perform clinical laboratory tests or examinations classified as of moderate complexity under CLIA unless the clinical laboratory test or examination is performed under the overall operation and administration of the laboratory director, as described in Section 1209, including, but not limited to, documentation by the laboratory director of the adequacy of the

qualifications and competency of the personnel, and the test is performed by any of the following persons:

- (1) A licensed physician and surgeon holding a M.D. or D.O. degree.
- (2) A licensed podiatrist or a licensed dentist if the results of the tests can be lawfully utilized within his or her practice.
- (3) A person licensed under this chapter to engage in clinical laboratory practice or to direct a clinical laboratory.
- (4) A person authorized to perform tests pursuant to a certificate issued under Article 5 (commencing with Section 101150) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (5) A licensed physician assistant if authorized by a supervising physician and surgeon in accordance with Section 3502 or 3535.
- (6) A person licensed under Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 2700).
- (7) A perfusionist if authorized by and performed in compliance with Section 2590.
- (8) A respiratory care practitioner if authorized by and performed in compliance with Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 3700).
- (9) A person performing nuclear medicine technology if authorized by and performed in compliance with Article 6 (commencing with Section 107150) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (10) Any person if performing blood gas analysis in compliance with Section 1245.
- (11) (A) A person certified or licensed as an “Emergency Medical Technician II” or paramedic pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 1797) of the Health and Safety Code while providing prehospital medical care, a person licensed as a psychiatric technician under Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 4500) of Division 2, as a vocational nurse pursuant to Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 2840), or as a midwife licensed pursuant to Article 24 (commencing with Section 2505) of Chapter 5, or certified by the department pursuant to Division 5 (commencing with Section 70001) of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations as a nurse assistant or a home health aide, who provides direct patient care, if the person is performing the test as an adjunct to the provision of direct patient care by the person, is utilizing a point-of-care laboratory testing device at a site for which a laboratory license or registration has been issued, meets the minimum clinical laboratory education, training, and experience requirements set forth in regulations adopted by the department, and has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the laboratory director that he or she is competent in the operation of the point-of-care laboratory testing device for each analyte to be reported.
(B) Prior to being authorized by the laboratory director to perform laboratory tests or examinations, testing personnel identified in subparagraph (A) shall participate in a preceptor program until they are able to perform the clinical laboratory tests or examinations authorized in this section with results that are deemed accurate and skills that are deemed competent by the preceptor. For the purposes of this section, a “preceptor program” means

an organized system that meets regulatory requirements in which a preceptor provides and documents personal observation and critical evaluation, including review of accuracy, reliability, and validity, of laboratory testing performed.

(12) Any other person within a physician office laboratory if the test is performed under the supervision of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist who shall be accessible to the laboratory to provide onsite, telephone, or electronic consultation as needed, and shall: (A) ensure that the person is performing test methods as required for accurate and reliable tests; and (B) have personal knowledge of the results of the clinical laboratory testing or examination performed by that person before the test results are reported from the laboratory.

(13) A pharmacist, if ordering drug therapy-related laboratory tests in compliance with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.1 or paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.2.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 1206, no person shall perform clinical laboratory tests or examinations classified as of high complexity under CLIA unless the clinical laboratory test or examination is performed under the overall operation and administration of the laboratory director, as described in Section 1209, including, but not limited to, documentation by the laboratory director of the adequacy of the qualifications and competency of the personnel, and the test is performed by any of the following persons:

(1) A licensed physician and surgeon holding a M.D. or D.O. degree.

(2) A licensed podiatrist or a licensed dentist if the results of the tests can be lawfully utilized within his or her practice.

(3) A person licensed under this chapter to engage in clinical laboratory practice or to direct a clinical laboratory if the test or examination is within a specialty or subspecialty authorized by the person's licensure.

(4) A person authorized to perform tests pursuant to a certificate issued under Article 5 (commencing with Section 101150) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code if the test or examination is within a specialty or subspecialty authorized by the person's certification.

(5) A licensed physician assistant if authorized by a supervising physician and surgeon in accordance with Section 3502 or 3535.

(6) A perfusionist if authorized by and performed in compliance with Section 2590.

(7) A respiratory care practitioner if authorized by and performed in compliance with Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 3700).

(8) A person performing nuclear medicine technology if authorized by and performed in compliance with Article 6 (commencing with Section 107150) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code.

(9) Any person if performing blood gas analysis in compliance with Section 1245.

(10) Any other person within a physician office laboratory if the test is performed under the onsite supervision of the patient's physician and surgeon

or podiatrist who shall: (A) ensure that the person is performing test methods as required for accurate and reliable tests; and (B) have personal knowledge of the results of clinical laboratory testing or examination performed by that person before the test results are reported from the laboratory.

(d) Clinical laboratory examinations classified as provider-performed microscopy under CLIA may be personally performed using a brightfield or phase/contrast microscope by one of the following practitioners:

(1) A licensed physician and surgeon using the microscope during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a group medical practice of which the physician is a member or employee.

(2) A nurse midwife holding a certificate as specified by Section 2746.5, a licensed nurse practitioner as specified in Section 2835.5, or a licensed physician assistant acting under the supervision of a physician pursuant to Section 3502 using the microscope during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from the patient of a clinic, group medical practice, or other health care provider of which the certified nurse midwife, licensed nurse practitioner, or licensed physician assistant is an employee.

(3) A licensed dentist using the microscope during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a group dental practice of which the dentist is a member or an employee.

SEC. 1.5. Section 1206.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

1206.5. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 1206 and except as otherwise provided in Sections 1206.6 and 1241, no person shall perform a clinical laboratory test or examination classified as waived under CLIA unless the clinical laboratory test or examination is performed under the overall operation and administration of the laboratory director, as described in Section 1209, including, but not limited to, documentation by the laboratory director of the adequacy of the qualifications and competency of the personnel, and the test is performed by any of the following persons:

(1) A licensed physician and surgeon holding a M.D. or D.O. degree.

(2) A licensed podiatrist, a licensed dentist, or a licensed naturopathic doctor, if the results of the tests can be lawfully utilized within his or her practice.

(3) A person licensed under this chapter to engage in clinical laboratory practice or to direct a clinical laboratory.

(4) A person authorized to perform tests pursuant to a certificate issued under Article 5 (commencing with Section 101150) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code.

(5) A licensed physician assistant if authorized by a supervising physician and surgeon in accordance with Section 3502 or 3535.

(6) A person licensed under Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 2700).

(7) A person licensed under Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 2840).

(8) A perfusionist if authorized by and performed in compliance with Section 2590.

(9) A respiratory care practitioner if authorized by and performed in compliance with Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 3700).

(10) A medical assistant, as defined in Section 2069, if the waived test is performed pursuant to a specific authorization meeting the requirements of Section 2069.

(11) A pharmacist, as defined in Section 4036, if ordering drug therapy-related laboratory tests in compliance with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.1 or paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.2, or if performing skin puncture in the course of performing routine patient assessment procedures in compliance with Section 4052.1.

(12) A naturopathic assistant, as defined in Sections 3613 and 3640.2, if the waived test is performed pursuant to a specific authorization meeting the requirements of Sections 3613 and 3640.2.

(13) A licensed optometrist as authorized under Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 3000).

(14) Other health care personnel providing direct patient care.

(15) Any other person performing nondiagnostic testing pursuant to Section 1244.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 1206, no person shall perform clinical laboratory tests or examinations classified as of moderate complexity under CLIA unless the clinical laboratory test or examination is performed under the overall operation and administration of the laboratory director, as described in Section 1209, including, but not limited to, documentation by the laboratory director of the adequacy of the qualifications and competency of the personnel, and the test is performed by any of the following persons:

(1) A licensed physician and surgeon holding a M.D. or D.O. degree.

(2) A licensed podiatrist or a licensed dentist if the results of the tests can be lawfully utilized within his or her practice.

(3) A person licensed under this chapter to engage in clinical laboratory practice or to direct a clinical laboratory.

(4) A person authorized to perform tests pursuant to a certificate issued under Article 5 (commencing with Section 101150) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code.

(5) A licensed physician assistant if authorized by a supervising physician and surgeon in accordance with Section 3502 or 3535.

(6) A person licensed under Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 2700).

(7) A perfusionist if authorized by and performed in compliance with Section 2590.

(8) A respiratory care practitioner if authorized by and performed in compliance with Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 3700).

(9) A person performing nuclear medicine technology if authorized by and performed in compliance with Article 6 (commencing with Section 107150) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code.

(10) Any person if performing blood gas analysis in compliance with Section 1245.

(11) (A) A person certified or licensed as an “Emergency Medical Technician II” or paramedic pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 1797) of the Health and Safety Code while providing prehospital medical care, a person licensed as a psychiatric technician under Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 4500) of Division 2, as a vocational nurse pursuant to Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 2840), or as a midwife licensed pursuant to Article 24 (commencing with Section 2505) of Chapter 5, or certified by the department pursuant to Division 5 (commencing with Section 70001) of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations as a nurse assistant or a home health aide, who provides direct patient care, if the person is performing the test as an adjunct to the provision of direct patient care by the person, is utilizing a point-of-care laboratory testing device at a site for which a laboratory license or registration has been issued, meets the minimum clinical laboratory education, training, and experience requirements set forth in regulations adopted by the department, and has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the laboratory director that he or she is competent in the operation of the point-of-care laboratory testing device for each analyte to be reported.

(B) Prior to being authorized by the laboratory director to perform laboratory tests or examinations, testing personnel identified in subparagraph (A) shall participate in a preceptor program until they are able to perform the clinical laboratory tests or examinations authorized in this section with results that are deemed accurate and skills that are deemed competent by the preceptor. For the purposes of this section, a “preceptor program” means an organized system that meets regulatory requirements in which a preceptor provides and documents personal observation and critical evaluation, including review of accuracy, reliability, and validity, of laboratory testing performed.

(12) Any other person within a physician office laboratory if the test is performed under the supervision of the patient’s physician and surgeon or podiatrist who shall be accessible to the laboratory to provide onsite, telephone, or electronic consultation as needed, and shall: (A) ensure that the person is performing test methods as required for accurate and reliable tests; and (B) have personal knowledge of the results of the clinical laboratory testing or examination performed by that person before the test results are reported from the laboratory.

(13) A pharmacist, if ordering drug therapy-related laboratory tests in compliance with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.1 or paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052.2.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 1206, no person shall perform clinical laboratory tests or examinations classified as of high complexity under CLIA unless the clinical laboratory test or examination is performed under the overall operation and administration of the laboratory director, as described in Section 1209, including, but not limited to, documentation by the laboratory director of the adequacy of the

qualifications and competency of the personnel, and the test is performed by any of the following persons:

- (1) A licensed physician and surgeon holding a M.D. or D.O. degree.
 - (2) A licensed podiatrist or a licensed dentist if the results of the tests can be lawfully utilized within his or her practice.
 - (3) A person licensed under this chapter to engage in clinical laboratory practice or to direct a clinical laboratory if the test or examination is within a specialty or subspecialty authorized by the person's licensure.
 - (4) A person authorized to perform tests pursuant to a certificate issued under Article 5 (commencing with Section 101150) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code if the test or examination is within a specialty or subspecialty authorized by the person's certification.
 - (5) A licensed physician assistant if authorized by a supervising physician and surgeon in accordance with Section 3502 or 3535.
 - (6) A perfusionist if authorized by and performed in compliance with Section 2590.
 - (7) A respiratory care practitioner if authorized by and performed in compliance with Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 3700).
 - (8) A person performing nuclear medicine technology if authorized by and performed in compliance with Article 6 (commencing with Section 107150) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - (9) Any person if performing blood gas analysis in compliance with Section 1245.
 - (10) Any other person within a physician office laboratory if the test is performed under the onsite supervision of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist who shall: (A) ensure that the person is performing test methods as required for accurate and reliable tests; and (B) have personal knowledge of the results of clinical laboratory testing or examination performed by that person before the test results are reported from the laboratory.
- (d) Clinical laboratory examinations classified as provider-performed microscopy under CLIA may be personally performed using a brightfield or phase/contrast microscope by one of the following practitioners:
- (1) A licensed physician and surgeon using the microscope during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a group medical practice of which the physician is a member or employee.
 - (2) A nurse midwife holding a certificate as specified by Section 2746.5, a licensed nurse practitioner as specified in Section 2835.5, or a licensed physician assistant acting under the supervision of a physician pursuant to Section 3502 using the microscope during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from the patient of a clinic, group medical practice, or other health care provider of which the certified nurse midwife, licensed nurse practitioner, or licensed physician assistant is an employee.

(3) A licensed dentist using the microscope during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a group dental practice of which the dentist is a member or an employee.

SEC. 2. Section 1206.6 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

1206.6. Subdivision (a) of Section 1206.5 shall not apply to a pharmacist at a community pharmacy who, upon customer request, performs only blood glucose, hemoglobin A1c, or cholesterol tests that are classified as waived under CLIA and are approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for sale to the public without a prescription in the form of an over-the-counter test kit, provided that all of the following requirements are satisfied:

(a) The pharmacy obtains a valid CLIA certificate of waiver and complies with all other requirements for the performance of waived clinical laboratory tests under applicable federal regulations. For purposes of CLIA, the person identified as responsible for directing and supervising testing oversight and decisionmaking shall be the pharmacist-in-charge, as defined in Section 4036.5.

(b) The pharmacy obtains a registration from the department pursuant to Section 1265 and complies with this chapter.

(c) The tests are performed only by a pharmacist, as defined in Section 4036, in the course of performing routine patient assessment procedures in compliance with Section 4052.4.

SEC. 3. Section 1211 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

1211. (a) As used in this chapter, "owner" means any person with an ownership or control interest in a clinical laboratory.

(b) "Person with an ownership or control interest" means a person, partnership, or corporation that meets any of the following descriptions:

(1) Has an ownership interest totaling 5 percent or more in a clinical laboratory.

(2) Has an indirect ownership interest equal to 5 percent or more in a clinical laboratory.

(3) Has a combination of direct and indirect ownership interests equal to 5 percent or more in a clinical laboratory.

(4) Owns an interest of 5 percent or more in any mortgage, deed of trust, note, or other obligation secured by the clinical laboratory if that interest equals at least 5 percent of the value of the property or assets of the clinical laboratory.

(5) Is an officer or director of a clinical laboratory that is organized as a corporation.

(6) Is a partner in a clinical laboratory that is organized as a partnership with no more than 25 partners, general or limited.

(7) Is a partner who exercises any operational or managerial control over a clinical laboratory organized as a partnership with more than 25 partners, general or limited.

(c) As used in this chapter "ownership interest" means the possession of equity in capital, stock, or profits.

(d) “Indirect ownership interest” means an ownership interest in an entity that has an ownership interest in a clinical laboratory, and includes an ownership interest in any entity that has an indirect ownership interest in a clinical laboratory.

(e) “Change in ownership” means any change in the persons who are owners.

(f) “Major change in ownership” means a change in ownership where 50 percent or more of the ownership interest is owned by persons other than the owners to whom the current clinical laboratory license or registration is issued.

(g) “Change in name” means any change in the name under which the laboratory operates or is doing business.

(h) “Change in location” means any change in the street and city address, or the site or place within the street and city address, for which a license or registration is issued.

(i) “Change in laboratory director” means any change in the laboratory director or directors to whom the current license or registration is issued.

(j) “Major change in laboratory directorship” means a change in laboratory director or directors resulting in the situation where less than 50 percent of the laboratory directors to whom the current laboratory license or registration is issued remain after the change.

(k) For purposes of this section, in the case of a pharmacy that applies for a registration pursuant to Section 1206.6, “laboratory director” means the pharmacist-in-charge identified pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 1206.6.

SEC. 4. Section 1265 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

1265. (a) (1) A clinical laboratory performing clinical laboratory tests or examinations classified as of moderate or of high complexity under CLIA shall obtain a clinical laboratory license pursuant to this chapter. The department shall issue a clinical laboratory license to any person who has applied for the license on forms provided by the department and who is found to be in compliance with this chapter and the regulations pertaining thereto. No clinical laboratory license shall be issued by the department unless the clinical laboratory and its personnel meet the CLIA requirements for laboratories performing tests or examinations classified as of moderate or high complexity, or both.

(2) A clinical laboratory performing clinical laboratory tests or examinations subject to a certificate of waiver or a certificate of provider-performed microscopy under CLIA, shall register with the department. The department shall issue a clinical laboratory registration to any person who has applied for the registration on forms provided by the department and is found to be in compliance with this chapter, the regulations pertaining thereto, and the CLIA requirements for either a certificate of waiver or a certificate of provider-performed microscopy.

(b) An application for a clinical laboratory license or registration shall include the name or names of the owner or the owners, the name or names

of the laboratory director or directors, the name and location of the laboratory, a list of the clinical laboratory tests or examinations performed by the laboratory by name and total number of test procedures and examinations performed annually (excluding tests the laboratory may run for quality control, quality assurance, or proficiency testing purposes). The application shall also include a list of the tests and the test kits, methodologies, and laboratory equipment used, and the qualifications (educational background, training, and experience) of the personnel directing and supervising the laboratory and performing the laboratory examinations and test procedures, and any other relevant information as may be required by the department. If the laboratory is performing tests subject to a provider-performed microscopy certificate, the name of the provider or providers performing those tests shall be included on the application. Application shall be made by the owners of the laboratory and the laboratory directors prior to its opening. A license or registration to conduct a clinical laboratory if the owners are not the laboratory directors shall be issued jointly to the owners and the laboratory directors and the license or registration shall include any information as may be required by the department. The owners and laboratory directors shall be severally and jointly responsible to the department for the maintenance and conduct thereof or for any violations of this chapter and regulations pertaining thereto.

(c) The department shall not issue a license or registration until it is satisfied that the clinical laboratory will be operated within the spirit and intent of this chapter, that the owners and laboratory directors are each of good moral character, and that the granting of the license will not be in conflict with the interests of public health.

(d) A separate license or registration shall be obtained for each laboratory location, with the following exceptions:

(1) Laboratories that are not at a fixed location, that is, laboratories that move from one testing site to another, such as mobile units providing laboratory testing, health screening fairs, or other temporary testing locations, may apply for and obtain one license or registration for the designated primary site or home base, using the address of that primary site.

(2) Not-for-profit, or federal, state, or local government laboratories that engage in limited (not more than a combination of 15 moderately complex or waived tests, as defined under CLIA, per license) public health testing may apply for and obtain a single license or registration.

(3) Laboratories within a hospital that are located at contiguous buildings on the same campus and under common direction, may file a single application or multiple applications for a license or registration of laboratory locations within the same campus or street address.

(4) Locations within a single street and city address that are under common ownership may apply for and obtain a single license or registration or multiple licenses or registrations, at the discretion of the owner or owners.

(e) (1) A license or registration shall be valid for one year unless revoked or suspended. A clinical laboratory license or registration shall be automatically revoked 30 days from a major change of laboratory

directorship or ownership. The clinical laboratory shall be required to submit a completed application for a new clinical laboratory license or registration within those 30 days or cease engaging in clinical laboratory practice.

(2) If a clinical laboratory intends to continue to engage in clinical laboratory practice during the 30 days after a major change in directorship occurs and before the laboratory license or registration is automatically revoked, the laboratory owner may appoint an interim director who meets the requirements of this chapter and CLIA. The interim director shall be appointed within five business days of the major change of the directorship. Written notice shall be provided to the department of the appointment of the laboratory director pursuant to this paragraph within five business days of the appointment.

(f) If the department does not within 60 days after the date of receipt of the application issue a license or registration, it shall state the grounds and reasons for its refusal in writing, serving a copy upon the applicant by certified mail addressed to the applicant at his or her last known address.

(g) The department shall be notified in writing by the laboratory owners or delegated representatives of the owners and the laboratory directors of any change in ownership, directorship, name, or location, including the addition or deletion of laboratory owners or laboratory directors within 30 days. However, notice of change in ownership shall be the responsibility of both the current and new owners. Laboratory owners and directors to whom the current license or registration is issued shall remain jointly and severally responsible to the department for the operation, maintenance, and conduct of the clinical laboratory and for any violations of this chapter or the regulations adopted thereunder, including any failure to provide the notifications required by this subdivision, until proper notice is received by the department. In addition, failure of the laboratory owners and directors to notify the department within 30 days of any change in laboratory directors, including any additions or deletions, shall result in the automatic revocation of the clinical laboratory's license or registration.

(h) The withdrawal of an application for a license or registration or for a renewal of a license, or registration, issuable under this chapter, shall not, after the application has been filed with the department, deprive the department of its authority to institute or continue a proceeding against the applicant for denial of the license, registration, or renewal upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order denying the license, registration, or renewal upon any such ground, unless the department consents in writing to the withdrawal.

(i) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license or registration issued under this chapter, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by order of the department or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written consent of the department, shall not deprive the department of its authority to institute or continue an action against a license or registration issued under this chapter or against the laboratory owner or laboratory director upon any ground provided by law or to enter

an order suspending or revoking the license or registration issued under this chapter.

(j) (1) Whenever a clinical laboratory ceases operations, the laboratory owners, or delegated representatives of the owners, and the laboratory directors shall notify the department of this fact, in writing, within 30 calendar days from the date a clinical laboratory ceases operation. For purposes of this subdivision, a laboratory ceases operations when it suspends the performance of all clinical laboratory tests or examinations for 30 calendar days at the location for which the clinical laboratory is licensed or registered.

(2) (A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, owners and laboratory directors of all clinical laboratories, including those laboratories that cease operations, shall preserve medical records and laboratory records, as defined in this section, for three years from the date of testing, examination, or purchase, unless a longer retention period is required pursuant to any other provision of law, and shall maintain an ability to provide those records when requested by the department or any duly authorized representative of the department.

(B) For purposes of this subdivision, “medical records” means the test requisition or test authorization, or the patient’s chart or medical record, if used as the test requisition, the final and preliminary test or examination result, and the name of the person contacted if the laboratory test or examination result indicated an imminent life-threatening result or was of panic value.

(C) For purposes of this subdivision, “laboratory records” means records showing compliance with CLIA and this chapter during a laboratory’s operation that are actual or true copies, either photocopies or electronically reproducible copies, of records for patient test management, quality control, quality assurance, and all invoices documenting the purchase or lease of laboratory equipment and test kits, reagents, or media.

(D) Information contained in medical records and laboratory records shall be confidential, and shall be disclosed only to authorized persons in accordance with federal, state, and local laws.

(3) The department or any person injured as a result of a laboratory’s abandonment or failure to retain records pursuant to this section may bring an action in a court of proper jurisdiction for any reasonable amount of damages suffered as a result thereof.

(k) For purposes of this section, in the case of a pharmacy that applies for a registration pursuant to Section 1206.6, “laboratory director” means the pharmacist-in-charge identified pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 1206.6.

SEC. 5. Section 4052.4 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4052.4. Notwithstanding Section 2038 or any other provision of law, a pharmacist may perform skin puncture in the course of performing routine patient assessment procedures or in the course of performing any procedure authorized under Section 1206.5 or 1206.6. For purposes of this section,

“routine patient assessment procedures” means: (a) procedures that a patient could, with or without a prescription, perform for himself or herself, or (b) clinical laboratory tests that are classified as waived pursuant to the federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 263a) and the regulations adopted thereunder by the federal Health Care Financing Administration, as authorized by paragraph (11) of subdivision (a) of Section 1206.5 or Section 1206.6. A pharmacist performing these functions shall report the results obtained from a test to the patient and any physician designated by the patient. Any pharmacist who performs the service authorized by this section shall not be in violation of Section 2052.

SEC. 6. Section 1.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 1206.5 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by both this bill and Assembly Bill 761. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2013, (2) each bill amends Section 1206.5 of the Business and Professions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Assembly Bill 761, in which case Section 1 of this bill shall not become operative.